# Draft Murarrie Recreation Reserve Sport and Recreation Precinct Plan

**Creating more to see and do in a clean and green Brisbane means more opportunities to enjoy Brisbane’s beautiful climate and connect with family and friends in the places that make our city great, like Murarrie Recreation Reserve.**

## Project background

Murarrie Recreation Reserve is home to one of only two criterium cycling tracks in Brisbane. With wide open greenspace inside the track, walk-cycle paths, two play nodes, a skate park and a basketball half court, the reserve is well used as a formal sport facility and also for passive and active recreation. Having significant frontage with Wynnum Road and being near to the Murarrie train station, the site functions well as a metropolitan-level sport and recreation facility.

The reserve is a former landfill site (in operation until 1975) and has previously hosted regular vigoro fixtures. It was the site for archery during the 1982 Commonwealth Games.

The reserve has residential areas to the north, east and west and is also nearby to industrial and commercial precincts. It is one of the few formalised sport and recreation facilities in the immediate open space network.

Continuing growth in cycling activities and a need to enhance the potential uses of the open greenspace areas has led to the need to review the existing layout and uses of Murarrie Recreation Reserve.

## Existing situation

The 34 ha site is zoned Sport and Recreation (Metropolitan level) with one existing lessee (the Balmoral Cycling Club).

Existing embellishments include:

* criterium cycling track (approximately 1400 m in length) and small single-storey clubhouse
* pedestrian/cycle links lead onto the track from the east (part of the Bulimba Creek Bikeway) and from the north-west corner of the reserve along the western side through to Wynnum Road
* large central greenspace
* recreation node in the north-west corner of the reserve (including play area, shelter, barbecue and seats in shade)
* recreation node in the south-east corner of the reserve (including recently upgraded skate park, a basketball half court, play node and large shelter)
* small amenities building
* disused vigoro facilities (seven pitches and four shade shelters)
* archery-related public art structure
* unsealed car parking

## Key findings to date

Demand for upgrades to the reserve has been established through wide-ranging consultation and from consideration of existing and potential opportunities. Key directions include:

* + *Sports*
	+ growth in cycling activities
	+ limited quality criterium cycling venues in Brisbane (and wider South East Queensland)
	+ demand for additional junior cricket fields in the area
	+ *Recreation*
	+ ensuring quality recreation nodes are available within the reserve
	+ building on the cycling nature of the reserve with new community cycling activity areas
	+ *Common areas*
	+ developing a large number of formal car parking opportunities
	+ establishing improved walk-cycle links around and through the reserve
	+ softening the concrete drainage link on the western side of the reserve.

## Vision and design principles

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The vision for Murarrie Recreation Reserve is:

*“to further establish a formal sports cycling venue that also offers a range of quality recreation opportunities and flexible community facilities. Importantly, quality walk-cycle links will ensure the reserve continues to attract high levels of use as a key active recreation destination*”.

Preparation of the Sport and Recreation Precinct Plan reflects efforts to:

* ensure accessibility and inclusion for all at the reserve
* seek innovative and sustainable infrastructure development
* develop flexible facilities that attract multiple uses
* retain visual amenity.

## Proposed concept plan

The elements of the proposed Sport and Recreation Precinct Concept Plan are discussed below.

Proposed embellishments for the reserve include:

* *Sporting opportunities*
* re-developed 2000 m criterium cycling track with options for three smaller loops (conceptual layout only)
* development of three junior cricket fields with maximum 40 m boundaries and shortened pitches (suitable for up to U11 matches)
* potential for future sporting field development
* *Wheeled sport-based recreation opportunities*
* community cycling track (e.g. pump track)
* learn-to-ride cycling pad (also used as a formal cycling warm-up and skills development area)
* *Additional recreation opportunities*
* two quality play nodes, including upgrading facilities near the basketball half court
* picnic facilities
* expanded pedestrian opportunities
* *Common areas*
* formalised car park areas (435 spaces)
* western concrete drainage line re-established as a more natural drainage swale.

The recommendations contained within this plan do not commit Council or tenants to their implementation, however the plan does support Council and the community to seek grant funding and other investment opportunities.